

About the ACS



- Survey, not full census
- Survey sent to ~2 million households every year
- Estimates, with margins of error
- Replaces long form of the census

Expanding local coverage



- ACS started in 2000
 - One-year estimates for areas with populations > 65,000 (beginning with 2000 ACS)
- With every new survey, more data to be used for estimates
 - Three-year estimates for areas with populations
 - > 20,000 (beginning with 2006-2008 estimates)

Why all the fuss right now?

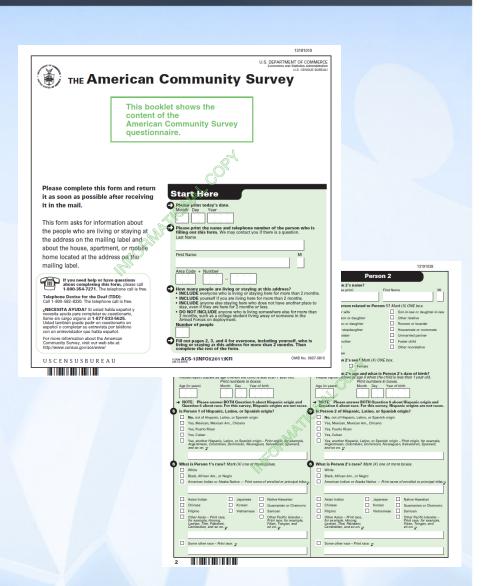


- Five-year estimates for small areas
 - 2005-2009 estimates just released
- 2005-2009 data set available at the tract level for the first time

What does the ACS cover?



- Everything!
 - 11-page survey
 - Age, race, ethnicity, income, education level, commuting habits, etc.
 - Incredibly detailed



Interesting Saint Paul tidbits



- Saint Paul's 2005-2009 estimated population is 278,342 (down 3% from 2000)
- Downtown Saint Paul's 2005-2009 estimated population is 10,474 (up 11% from 2000)

Caution - crazy tables ahead!

Saint Paul and friends



Demographics	Saint Paul	Minneapolis	Roseville	Maplewood	Bloomington
Population	287,151	379,499	32,765	35,975	81,932
Median age	31.8	32.1	43.5	40	42.5
Percent White	66.6	69.6	87.2	80.9	82.4
Percent Black	13.2	17.0	4.2	6.5	5.8
Percent Asian	12.9	5.1	5.8	8.8	4.9
Percent Hispanic	8.9	9.5	4	3.9	6.2

- Saint Paul is...
 - Youngest
 - Most diverse

Saint Paul and friends



Economic Characteristics	Saint Paul	Minneapolis	Roseville	Maplewood	Bloomington
Median household income	\$ 46,026	\$ 45,625	\$ 52,360	\$ 58,883	\$ 59,574
Percent people below poverty level	19.8	21.5	7.6	9.5	6.8
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	21.5	21.8	20.5	21.8	21.1

- Saint Paul's households are...
 - Wealthier than Minneapolis, but not nearly as wealthy as Bloomington

Saint Paul and friends



Social Characteristics	Saint Paul	Minneapolis	Roseville	Maplewood	Bloomington
Average household size	2.42	2.19	2.22	2.5	2.28
Nonfamily households	55.3	47.2	44.9	32.7	39.6
Households with children under 18	29.0	24.1	22.3	31.3	25.3
Households with people over 65	17.4	13.6	35.2	29.3	28.3
Less than 9th grade education	6.6	5.7	2.9	3.6	2
Graduate or professional degree	14.8	15.7	17	10.7	10.2

- Saint Paul has the most...
 - Non-family households
 - People with less than a ninth-grade education

Saint Paul and Friends



Social Characteristics (cont.)	Saint Paul	Minneapolis	Roseville	Maplewood	Bloomington
Foreign born	15.2	14.7	9.5	7.9	9.7
% from Asia	48.4	24.7	42.2	47.8	38.6
% from Africa	18.9	25.9	16.9	21.7	13.5
% from Latin America	24.8	39.2	21.1	11.8	33.2
Language other than English	23.4	19.2	11.0	12.9	12.8

- Saint Paul has the highest...
 - Foreign-born population
 - Percentage of households that speak a language other than English at home

Saint Paul and Friends



Housing Characteristics	Saint Paul	Minneapolis	Roseville	Maplewood	Bloomington
Home ownership rate	56.3	52	67.3	75.8	70.7
Median housing value	\$ 206,200	\$ 229,700	\$ 240,300	\$ 228,100	\$ 240,500
Rent as percent of income over 35%	42.5	42.4	36.6	41.6	37.1
No vehicles available	14.3	17.5	9.5	7.6	6.3

- Saint Paul has...
 - Lowest median housing value
 - Most households paying a high percent of income towards rent

How to access ACS data (and make your own crazy tables)



http://factfinder.census.gov

- Data profiles of selected characteristics
 - demographic
 - social
 - housing
 - economic
- Saint Paul is a "place"
- Nice metro-area summaries on Met Council's <u>Web site</u> (http://stats.metc.state.mn.us/profile/Default.aspx)

ACS data and mapping



- 2005-2009 is the first map-able data from the Census Bureau since 2000
- NY Times
 (http://projects.nytimes.com/census/2010/e xplorer)
- <u>Social Explorer</u>
 (http://www.socialexplorer.com)

2005-2009 ACS limitations



- Sometimes large margins of error, especially for small areas
- Difficult to make direct comparisons to other data sets
- Hard to see impact of recession

What about the 2010 Census?



- First numbers released in December
 - State and national population, used for redistricting
- Other data will be released starting in February
- ...but, less exciting now that ACS data is available at the tract level

